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GEORGE WILLIAM KNOX

The untimely death of Professor George William Knox of Union Theological Seminary occasions to the cause of theological thought and religious activity a loss which will be felt throughout the world. Professor Knox was born in 1853, and after his graduation from Auburn Theological Seminary in 1877 was engaged in missionary work in Japan, filling the chair of philosophy and ethics at the Imperial University, and the chair of homiletics in Union Seminary at Tokyo. In 1897 he returned to this country, and has since that time occupied the chair of the philosophy and history of religion at Union Theological Seminary. As a co-operating editor of the *American Journal of Theology*, and by an occasional contribution, Professor Knox generously gave the benefit of his wide experience and catholic scholarship in the interests of promoting the soundest theological thinking. Professor Knox's greatest power lay in his virile and inspiring personality, and his remarkable ability to stimulate in students and hearers an eagerness for scholarly activity. He made it a rule never to refuse an invitation to speak unless prevented by some conflicting engagement. His services were thus freely given to the larger public interests in addition to his work in Union Theological Seminary. His published writings have furnished distinct stimulus to theological thought. Among them may be mentioned the Nathaniel William Taylor Lectures at Yale in 1903, entitled, "The Direct and Fundamental Proofs of the Christian Religion"; "The Spirit of the Orient," published in 1906; "The Development of Religion in Japan," in 1907, and "The Religion of Jesus," in 1909. At the time of his death he was in the Orient under appointment as the Union Seminary lecturer on Christianity in the Far East. The purpose of this lectureship is similar to that of the Barrows Foundation. He had spent three or four months in India and China and was in Korea when he was attacked by pneumonia, which, after a brief illness, resulted in his death.